

# Intellectual Property SURVEY

University of Oxford iGEM Team 2014



*This survey is directed to **students** participating in the iGEM competition in 2014.*

Many thanks for your participation! Please return completed surveys to us at [oxfordigem@bioch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:oxfordigem@bioch.ox.ac.uk) or via facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/oxfordigem>.



1) Which team are you competing with in 2014?

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2) Do you have any experience of intellectual property issues prior to your involvement in iGEM?

☐ No ☐ Yes

If yes, please give details:

- ☐ I considered patenting/wanted to patent my idea, but didn't.
- ☐ I patented my idea.
- ☐ I used material patented by other people and/or wanted to ensure the material I used hadn't been patented.
- ☐ Other (Please State):

.....

3) Has your team considered applying for IP rights to your current project?

☐ Application made ☐ Did not consider ☐ Considered but decided against

If you have not filed an application, what is the reason(s) for this?

- ☐ Time/effort involved in patent application.
- ☐ Expense involved in a patent application.
- ☐ Lack of information/understanding of the patent system.
- ☐ Moral/ethical reasons.
- ☐ Other (Please State):

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4) Do you believe your project has the potential to be profitable commercially/may attract investment?

☐ No ☐ Yes ☐ Possibly ☐ Unsure

5) Which option do you believe would be allow your project to be developed to bring the maximum benefit to society?

- ☐ Investment by a commercial company
- ☐ Investment from the public sector (government)
- ☐ Donation to the public domain (for example through the BioBrick agreement)
- ☐ Realistically, it is unlikely that an iGEM project could actually benefit society

If you can, please give reason(s) for your choice:

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6) How would you describe your understanding of the intellectual property issues relevant to synthetic biology?

- ☐ Thorough
- ☐ Adequate
- ☐ Vague
- ☐ Non-existent
- ☐ Disinterested

7) Do you believe legislators have sufficient understanding of synthetic biology to satisfactorily balance the tensions involved?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Possibly
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

8) Which of the following do you believe ought to be patentable?

Please select as many options as apply:

- ☐ Genes
- ☐ Synthetic molecules
- ☐ Genetically Modified Organisms
- ☐ Techniques
- ☐ Applications for coding sequences
- ☐ Computer algorithms/code
- ☐ Other (Please Suggest):

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9) Which of the following do you believe ought to be a priority for policy makers?

Please number the below priorities from 1 (high priority) to 5 (low priority):

- ☐ Ensuring inventors/creators are able to reap the rewards of their ideas
- ☐ Ensuring new ideas and projects are able to secure funding/investment
- ☐ Ensuring information is open and accessible to all
- ☐ Maximising profit
- ☐ Ensuring ideas are fully developed to realise their full potential benefit to society

Thank you for taking the time to answer our questions!